

## SUBTERRANEAN FEAST GIVEN BY CRANFORD

He Fulfills Promise by Holding Feast  
in Eighty Feet Beneath Spot  
Where Pledge Was Made.

Special to The Washington Herald.

New York, Dec. 5.—Out of the pit where once was the Astor House there came this afternoon strains of merry-making, and a shift of tany dishes caused an occasional Broadway pedestrian to reflect that in his consciousness at least, the spirit of the convivial old host still lived.

Frederick L. Cranford, head of the construction company that bears his name and the contractor for that section of the subway, entertained again this afternoon. He delights in out-of-the-way places to assemble his guests. Last year he invited his underground workers to a spread and a cabaret show beneath St. Paul's churchyard, and, with moving-picture and song, he gave his sand-hogs and muckers the time of their lives in close proximity to New York's distinguished early dead.

This afternoon's entertainment was the redemption by Mr. Cranford of a promise made some months ago to the informal club of engineers, most of them in the city's employ, which used to eat at a table set apart for them in the Old Astor House restaurant. More than fifty

were his guests, with some of their friends, and the occasion was prolonged by a "munchy" at 4 p. m., for his Italian laborers, a "munchy," in their vernacular, being a fed with trimmings.

The engineers' luncheon came about in this wise: Just before the demolition of the Astor House began, the engineers assembled at their table in large numbers, and Mr. Cranford told his listeners that when the foundation work necessary to make the suite suitable for a lofty office building, over the subway, he should reach the spot some eighty feet below the table at which they all sat, then and not before then, would he serve another far-well luncheon. Today he is making good that promise.

When the proper sentiment was expressed on all sides after the reunited engineers' club has collectively slipped its last cup of coffee together and smoked its last cigar, the 500 laborers on the Cranford section of the subway had their turn. The artificially lighted gloom of the underground chambers—four-fifths of the contract has been completed—in no wise affected the spirits of a company which spends the most of its waking hours below the street.

## BOMB FIRES TENEMENT; OTHER MENACES CROWD

New York and Jersey City Detectives  
on Trail of Perpetrators of  
Latest Outrages.

New York, Dec. 5.—Scores of lives were imperiled early today by a bomb which is believed to have been started by the explosion of a bomb placed in a hat factory at 311 Third street, Jersey City. The flames spread rapidly to two floors, buildings in the rear and caught the tenement house adjoining, where forty families were sleeping. The Jersey City Synagogue also was badly damaged.

The fire was discovered by a policeman, whose attention was attracted by a violent explosion. He summoned the firemen. Three alarms were necessary.

Police and firemen rescued many inmates who were trapped on the upper floors of the tenement by scaling ladders. The theory that the bomb exploded early last night in front of 34 Union square and near the entrance of the Union Square Savings Bank was hurried from a moving automobile is being investigated by the police.

Owen Eagan, inspector of combustibles, after getting down on his knees and sniffing at the point where the bomb was exploded, said he smelled chemicals and expressed the opinion that the explosion had been that of "an old-fashioned Italian chemical bomb, which every anarchist knows how to make."

Such a bomb, however, must be laid in place and if ignited with a rope fuse, could give the bomb-thrower a chance to get several blocks away before there was any explosion.

Union square was crowded when the bomb went off, but the police have found no one who was near the point where the explosion occurred immediately before the detonation. Nor have they found any motive for the bomb unless it be an anarchist's defiance of the police.

## PAY ROLL PADDED; SOLONS FACE TRIAL

"It's Been Done for Years," Say Indiana Legislators, Indicted by Grand Jury.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 5.—At liberty today on their own recognizance, the thirteen officers, members, and employees of the 121 Indiana general assembly, whose names appear in the thirty-four true bills returned last night by the Marion County grand jury, accusing them with presenting or signing false claims against State funds, declared that the same methods and customs were followed during that session as those in vogue for the last twenty years.

The grand jury charged that in the house, \$7,000 more than the total per diem and expenses of the members was paid to certain persons, and in the Senate, \$2,427. It was charged that there were 130 persons on the Senate pay roll, while the law provides for only thirty-nine.

The extra janitors, pages, clerks, stenographers, doorkeepers, etc., it was charged, did little or no actual service, but were employed to build up the legislators' personal machines.

## ITALY BUYS 250,000 HORSES.

Largest Contract Ever Made in U. S.  
Signed in New York.

New York, Dec. 5.—The largest single contract probably in the purchase of horses was made in this city today on account

## HOUSE & HERRMANN

Seventh and Eye Streets

## HOUSE & HERRMANN

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You could not have a better demonstration of the incomparable opportunities this Store offers—nor a more pronounced evidence of the real and tangible advantage you enjoy by dependence upon us.

## Wonderful Selling of Bedroom Furniture

We have been fortunate enough to gather the surplus stocks of two of the most reliable factories who specialize in Bedroom Furniture. We know both makers thoroughly—use enormous quantities from them every season—and in turn they have given us the advantage of their clearance prices. You may be very sure you have never bought equal values at anything like what we have marked these pieces.



Quarter-sawn Golden Oak, of excellent finish; large, commodious drawers; fine bevel French plate mirror and high-grade cabinet work.

Actual \$22 Value, \$16.85



Made for use with either of the Dressers, matching both acceptably. Roomy drawers; bevel French plate mirror. A wonderful value.

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Varying a little in size from the other, but of the same grade of Quarter-sawn Oak and exactly the same character of workmanship.

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Dresser or Chiffonier. They match exactly. Made of selected stock—a d honest construction. Full size; two top drawers; spacious, long drawers beneath. French plate mirror.

Value \$16.00, \$8.50 Each.



Chiffonier. Made of good quality Oak; carefully constructed; roomy drawers that work smoothly. Good finish throughout.

Worth \$6.00, \$3.95



China Closets. Colonial design; solid Oak; the ends are bent glass; heavy plate glass door, swinging from strong pillars. High polish finish.

Actual \$16.00 Value, \$11.85

## Oak Buffets



Quarter-sawn Golden Oak; in Colonial pattern; well constructed; practically arranged for the care of china, silver and glass. Bevel French plate mirror.

Actual \$30 Value, \$22.50

## Special Purchase of Ladies Desks

When we tell you that many of them are of the celebrated Grand Rapids make—and that all of them are in the new designs; with most desirable woods; and that the prices will average a fourth less than the actual value, you will appreciate that it is an unusual offering at Christmas time.



Quarter-sawn Oak, Mahogany, Bird's-eye Maple and Walnut. Every feature denotes high grade and superior value in construction and finish.

Quarter-sawn Oak, Mahogany, Bird's-eye Maple, or Walnut, \$16.00 Actual \$20 Value. \$18.00 Actual \$24 Value.

## Limited Quantities—But Standard Values

\$6 Golden Oak Desks	\$3.85	\$16.50 Golden Oak and Mahogany-finished Desks	\$12.45
\$7 Fumed Oak Desks	\$4.65	\$18.50 Golden Oak Desks	\$14.25
\$11 Golden Oak and Mahogany-finished Desks	\$8.35	\$20 Mahogany-finished Desks	\$14.75
\$11.50 Mahogany-finished Desks	\$8.65	\$22 Walnut Desks	\$15.65
\$12 Mahogany-finished Desks	\$8.85	\$28 Mahogany-finished Desks	\$21.25
\$14.50 Mahogany-finished Desks	\$10.65	\$30 Mahogany-finished Desks	\$22.75
\$16 Mahogany-finished Desks	\$11.85	\$36 Mahogany-finished Desks	\$25.75

## A Special Library Suite.



Handsome Mahogany-finished frames, skilled cabinet work; and GENUINE Spanish Leather-covered seats—on spring upholstery. This is the usual price for the suites that are upholstered in this manner. But these have GENUINE SPANISH LEATHER-COVERED SEATS.

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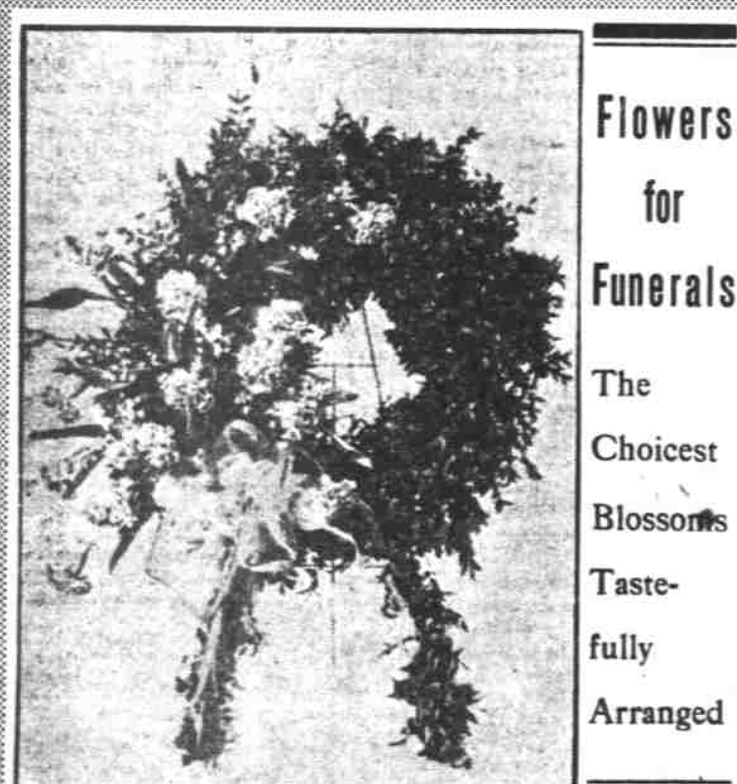
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We offer the widest selection of flowers and assortments in the city.

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## One of the New Tables

For library or living room—a most useful piece of furniture. Fumed Oak. Effective model, with double book shelves at each end; and handy center drawer. Just as substantial as it looks.

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## Covered Casserole.

Fireproof Brown and White Ware that you can safely set on the stove or in the oven. Mounted on triple-rickel plate on brass, that won't tarnish; with feet and handles.

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## MINIMUM WAGE IS AIM OF CONSUMERS' LEAGUE

Report Tells of Conditions in Capital and of Efforts to Remedy Them.

"Do we need a minimum wage commission in Washington?" This question is the keynote of the second annual report of the District Consumers' League, in which existing conditions in the capital, and the efforts of the league to remedy them are explained.

Pro tests against the eight-hour law for women have revealed short-comings in the economic conditions which prevail in Washington—conditions which prove the existence of industries in which the wage paid do not support the women employed in them, says the report. The inflated conditions of industry and the cost of living make it necessary, according to the report, that wage scales be flexible.

At the request of the Consumers' League, Senator Kenyon has introduced a resolution calling for an appropriation for the Bureau of Labor Statistics to make a study of the cost of living in the city. (On the data collected the league purpose a total Congress for legislative action on wages.)

The report also announces the program of the fifth annual meeting of the league to be held in the Raleigh Hotel December 16 and 17. The morning session will open at 11 o'clock with registration of delegates and visitors; 2 p. m. meeting of executive committee, and 8 p. m. a public meeting, Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, presiding.

Addresses will be delivered by John G. Brooks, Charles J. Bonaparte, Miss Jean Gordon, Mrs. Frederick Nathan, and Mrs. Florence Kelley. Three meetings also will be held Friday.

## TURKS PRESS ON IN RUSSIA.

Field Headquarters Reports Advance to East of Batum.

Constantinople, Dec. 5.—Turkish field headquarters in the Tchorok valley (Transcaucasia) reports that the Turkish advance has reached a point east of Batum. "Our advance northward continues without check," says the announcement. "We have diverted troops in the direction of Ardagan, where the Russians are in retreat."

(Batum is on the Black Sea, 300 miles west of Tiflis and fifteen miles inside the Russian border. Ardagan is sixty miles southeast of Batum.)

## ABUSES WIFE ON FINGERS.

And, Alas! He Could Not Answer for Self.

Mrs. Bessie Laurie, twenty-six years old, of 202 Berriman street, Brooklyn, appeared in the New Jersey Avenue Court today, where she accused her husband, Frank, of calling her names and of assault.

"If this woman's story is true you should be severely punished," exclaimed Magistrate Nauman. "What have you got to say for yourself?"

Laurie arose and began to make signs with his fingers.

"I forgot to explain that he cannot speak," said Mrs. Laurie. "He is deaf and dumb."

"Then how could he call you names?" the magistrate asked.

"With his fingers," was the reply. Laurie is under a \$500 bond to keep the peace.

## KAISER WEARS TOADSTONE RING

Famous Tailor of Hohenzollern House on His Finger.

Paris, Dec. 5.—The Kaiser has worn the famous Hohenzollern toadstone ring since the war began, according to La Vie Parisienne.

The toadstone, which is supposed to hide the Hohenzollerns over times of crisis, fell from a toad's mouth, says the legend, on the bed of John Sigismund, of Brandenburg, and ever since has been handed down to the reigning princes with the crown.

Another of the Kaiser's amulets is the four-leaved shamrock worn by his grandfather in the war of 1870.

## WILL TALK OF EXCISE LAW.

Prohibition Campaign to End Today at Belasco Meeting.

The culmination of a week's prohibition in Washington will come with the meeting for men at the Belasco Theater at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon. Sam Small and former Gov. Patterson, of Tennessee, will speak and it is expected developments in the plans of local temperance workers with reference to the excise question will be reported.

Senator Morris Sheppard, prohibition advocate, will create a probably will express the attitude of prohibition members of Congress on excise conditions here. Others will express the view of the temperance workers not members of Congress.

A musical program has been arranged for the Belasco meeting. A quartet composed of Mrs. Theodore T. Apple, soprano; Mrs. William T. Reed, contralto; Mr. D. G. Angevine, tenor, and Mr. Theodore T. Apple, basso and director, will sing. Mr. Louis A. Puffer will be at the piano.

NOT THE NEWEST, BUT THE MOST ESTEEMED.

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with Admiral Stockton in charge; 1:30 p. m., girls' variety team meets team from James Ormond Wilson School in basketball game at Eleventh and Harvard streets; 7:45 p. m., rehearsal of university orchestra for benefit of Belgian relief fund, Assembly Hall.

Saturday, 8 p. m.—Varsity basketball team opens season by meeting Loyola College of Baltimore, National Guard Armory, Eighth street and Pennsylvania avenue northwest.

Miss Short Elected to Sphinx. Distinction of election into membership of the select Sphinx Honor Society of the College of Washington University has been conferred upon Miss Helen Short, a junior of Columbian College at the institution. The society is the most exclusive women's organization at the university, its membership being limited to seven and being determined by high standard of scholarship and interest in collegiate activities.

Mrs. White to Read for Blind. Mrs. Benjamin White will give a reading of stories and poems next Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the National Library for the Blind, 1729 H street northwest.

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